

**Overview of the Directory Forum
Federal White Pages Initiative
and U.S. Government On-Line Directories
(USGold)**

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Government Directories

Status Quo

- It is difficult to consistently find the name, phone number, and e-mail address of a Federal employee
- Most Government agencies have internal employee directories
 - Telephone books
 - Web Page employee locators
 - Databases
 - X.500
 - LDAP
 - E-mail directories
- While these directories are useful within an organization, they can be difficult for someone outside the organization to consistently access and search

First, there was USGold Pilot

- USGold was to provide a single authoritative source for Government directory *and* information resources.
- USGold provides information location and retrieval services to assist Government personnel, business and industry, academia, and the public.
- USGold provides a Governmentwide information distribution infrastructure to interconnect all Federal, State, Tribal, Commonwealth, and Local governments.
- USGold was built on an X.500 distributed architecture with live connections to subordinate directories maintained by the agencies

USGold Goals and Objectives

- **Improve information distribution between Government agencies.**
- **Improve public access to Government services, personnel, and information resources.**
- **Provide a multi-technology infrastructure for interconnecting Government directories and information resources.**
- **Support global information interconnection.**
- **Support a Government public key infrastructure (PKI) to enable Governmentwide secure messaging, electronic commerce, and information certification.**

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Current and Future USGold Services

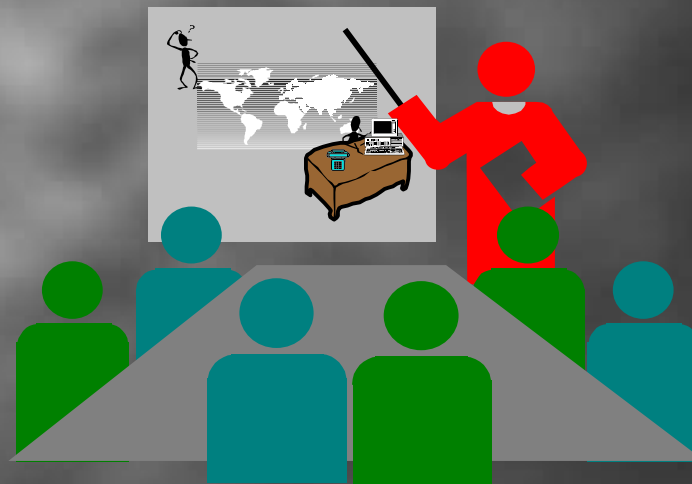
- **Governmentwide Information Resources**
 - Agency News
 - Information Bulletins
 - Public Services (Blue Pages)
 - Employee Services
 - Publications Indices
 - Maps and Directions
 - Personnel White Pages
 - Yellow Pages
 - Employment
 - Web Page Indices
- **Governmentwide Directory Infrastructure**
 - User Profiling
 - E-Mail Directory Interconnectivity
 - Public Key Infrastructure
 - Government Web Certification
 - LDAP Directory Indexing
 - International Directory Connectivity
 - Inter-directory Searches
 - Applications, Computer, and Communications Support

USGold Lessons Learned

- **Inherent performance problems exist with a distributed, subordinate DSA architecture**
- **While some agencies had an LDAP or X.500 directory, others did not, nor could they afford an X.500 implementation**
- **Communication and coordination between agencies was problematic - no central group or forum existed**

Enter the Directory Forum

- The Directory Forum has been established to focus on:
 - Directory interoperability
 - Coordinating Governmentwide directory interconnection and integration



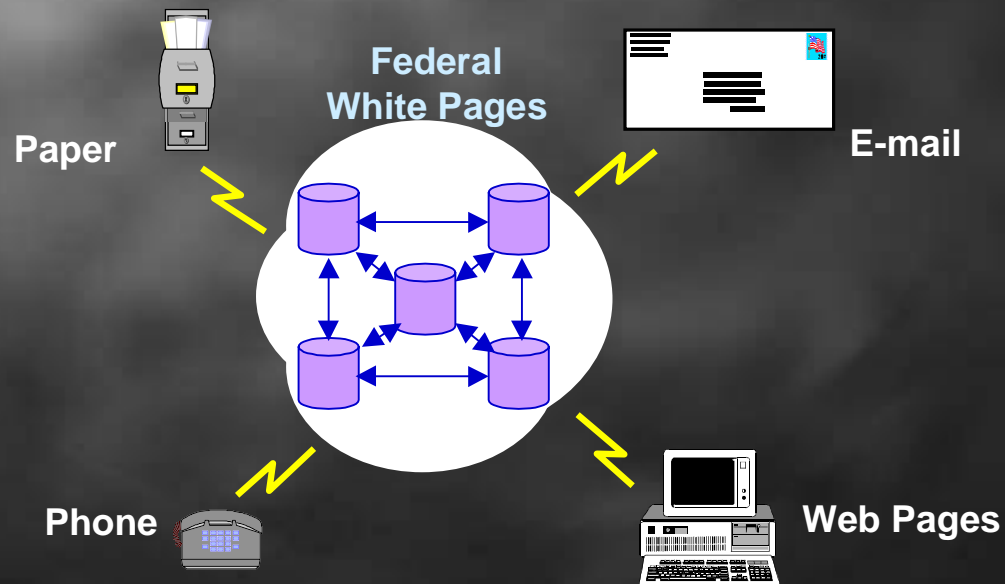
The Federal White Pages directory is envisioned as an on-line directory of directories.

The Directory Forum's Goals

- **List 80% of the Federal Government employees in a Governmentwide directory by 2nd/3rd quarter fiscal year 1999**
- **Achieve a Governmentwide directory that:**
 - **Facilitates the identification and sharing of Government information**
 - **Reduces cost of managing enterprise directory data**
 - **Supports a Federal public key infrastructure to enable Governmentwide business quality messaging and electronic commerce**
- **Make this directory not only accessible to Federal employees, but also to business and industry, academia and the general public, through the Internet and other media, as appropriate**

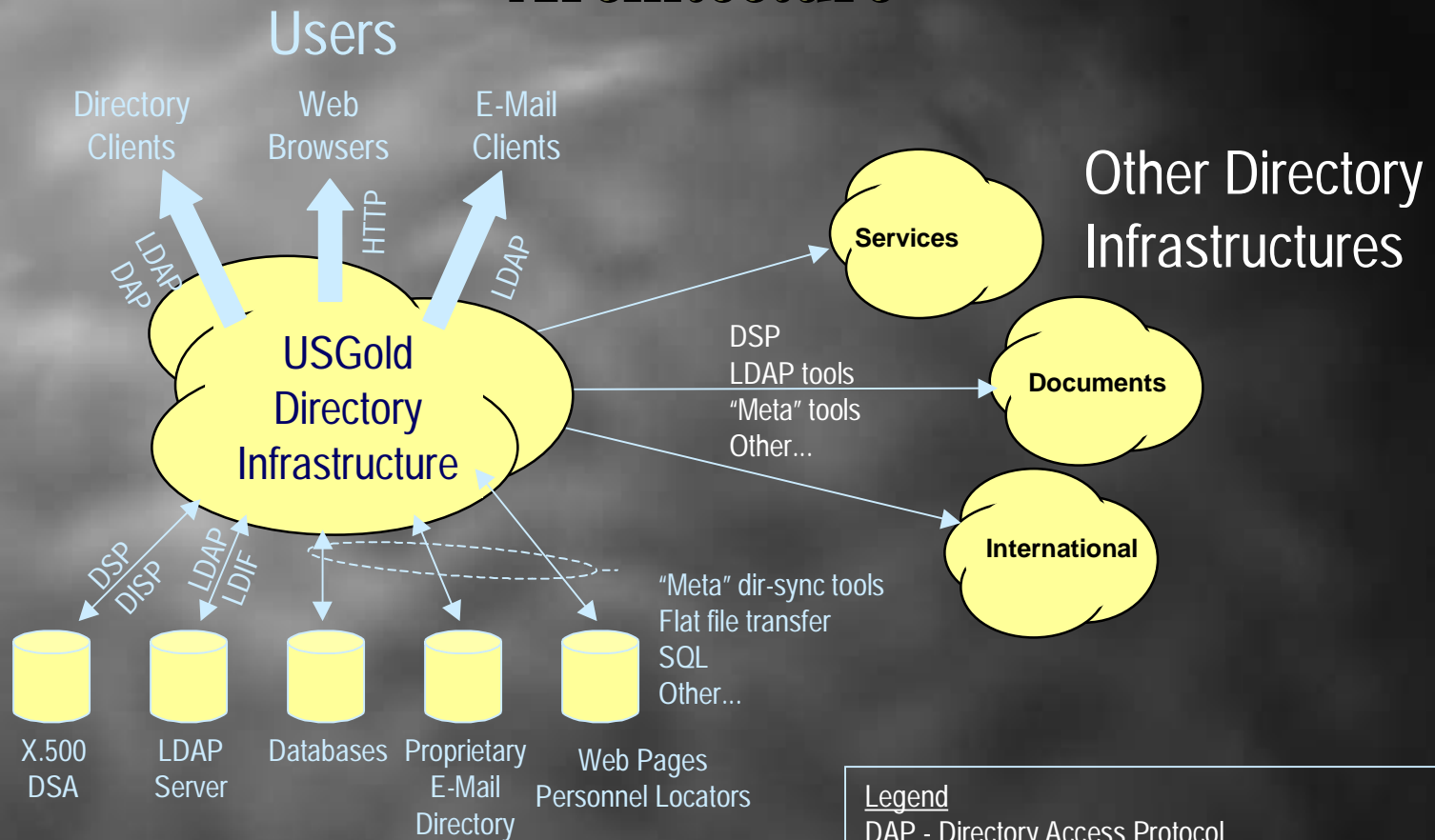
Directory Design

- Initially USGold will provide top-level directory service for the Federal White Pages
- USGold will Create a distributed data management architecture while providing efficient access from a central point
- The Forum will evaluate the incorporation of additional technologies and formulate technology recommendations to further interoperability
- The objective design will allow for flexibility for a variety of directory data interconnections



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The Federal White Pages Directory Architecture



Legend

DAP - Directory Access Protocol
 DISP - Directory Information Shadowing Protocol
 DSA - Directory System Agent
 HTTP - Hypertext Transfer Protocol
 LDAP - Lightweight Directory Access Protocol
 LDIF - LDAP Data Interchange Format
 SQL - Structured Query Language

Agency Data Sources

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Additionally, the CEMT is conducting a Certification Authority Test Pilot

- **Providing an opportunity to gain invaluable knowledge in establishing an operational CA environment and in the related directory issues**
- **Resulting in the development of**
 - **Initial functional requirements**
 - **A series of policies for governing the CA Test Pilot**
 - **A technical architecture.**
- **Serving as an impetus for**
 - **Eventual implementation of a proof of concept CA**
 - **Establishing an operational enterprise-based CA infrastructure in the future.**

Directory Forum Schedule

- The Kick-off Meeting was held September 29, 1998
- Monthly meetings will be held the last Tuesday of each month
- Upcoming meeting Topics:
 - October 27 - Technology Overview and Alternatives Discussion
 - December 8 - (Combined November/December meeting) - Department/Agency Case Studies.
- An e-mail distribution list has been established to distribute technical information - send mail to listproc@ds2.fed.gov with "subscribe dirmaster-L <your name>" in body
- A portion of each meeting will be to discuss technical issues and reach consensus on recommendations

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